

the **KALIFORNSKI**

Since 1979

NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.

P.O. Box 226, Watsonville, California 95077

(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

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EDITORS: Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

Contact at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, California 95076

(408) 724-2900



*DON'T MISS THE YACO
BAKALAR DINNER
(fish and potato)*

Sunday, February 4th
at VFW Hall, Freedom Blvd.

with

\$12.50 PER PERSON

- Green Salad — Bread —
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- Wine —

by John and Judy Biskup

RESERVATIONS ONLY —

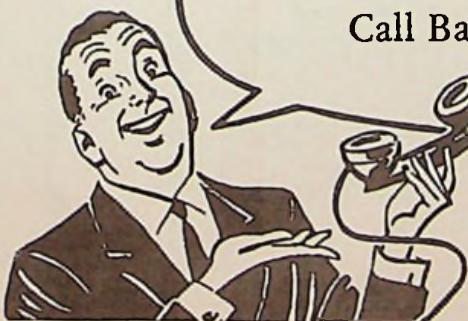
Limited to 100 people

NO TICKETS AT DOOR!

— *No refunds —*
“*A Reservation made
is a Reservation paid!*”

Reservations Deadline
is January 21st!

Call Babe at 724-1284

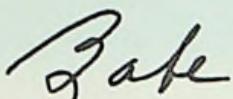


*Call Babe
for time
and other
information.*

PRESIDENT's MESSAGE

According to all the powers that be, and the YACO membership, starting Jan first there will be a new set of board of trustees and they are: John Biskup, Andy Gulermovich, Babe Hill, Nick Miloslavich and Jacqueline Zadravec, and at their first meeting they will pick or select the 1990 officers. Hopefully we will see new names in the lineup. We didn't have too bad a year in 1989 even with the resignation of Pat Solano, Emme Colendich and Ron Hill. Maybe in the years to come they will find time in their busy schedules to once again take a position of leadership in YACO. I must close now, but I want to thank all of you who have been supportive of me and the other officers. Please be there when once again we will all need your support and encouragement.

Thank you so much,



Babe Brautovich Hill

COMMITTEES:

Ella Korach, Dessert	724-5532
Jo Puhera, Sunshine	724-8930
Mary Basich, Bake Sale	724-3637
Ann Cernokus, Decorating	724-5179

SRETAN ROĐENDAN; NOVEMBER
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Marcia Kohl, San Jose
Ali Puglizevich, Merced
Ann Puglizevich, Merced
Josephine Bremis, Watsonville
Lucille Mihelic, Stockton
Linda Kusanovich, Daly City
Daniel Beaudry

DECEMBER

J. Neil Chichizola, San Carlos
Marilyn Zaknich, Aptos
Wayne Pile, San Jose
Martin Gizdich
Ann Gizdich, San Jose
Alex Solano, Watsonville
Christine Barlow, Watsonville
Jacqueline Zadravec, Aptos

SEND IN YOUR EARTHQUAKE STORY!

Let us know what happened and we'll be putting together a special Earthquake article in an upcoming issue.

So — where were YOU when the lights . . . gas . . . phones . . . and GROUND(!) went out?

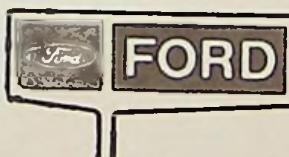
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Andy and Pat Gulermovich, owners

Yugoslav Radio Hour

Remember to listen to the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. on radio station KOMY, 1340 on the dial.

ANN & ANDY SOLDO are your hosts and bring you the finest in old favorites as well as the very latest music from Yugoslavia. They will be happy to play any special requests you might ask for whether it be for birthday, anniversary, or for any special announcement.

LOST —

*One very good Volley Ball at YACO's BBQ.
If anyone knows where it is, call Ron at 724-1284.
— No Questions Asked.*

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Potpourri

BABE BRAUTOVICH HILL

What a marvelous time we had at the Miramar for our Christmas Dinner. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Many of you came and told me personally, and I sure did appreciate that. It's always nice to know when your efforts are noticed, such as the following: Many thanks to Ann Cernokus for her decorating abilities. Thank you so much, Ann; Emme and Tony Colendich for coordination of the Santa Claus and the gift efforts. Thanks to both of you; Luce Basor and Lucy Selak and the Miramar for the Krostule and the Prikle. I know that many of us never get to eat these goodies unless someone else makes them. (Speak for yourself, Babe) . . . You remember Mother Nature??? Well, she cleaned house on the 17th of October. She must have written that song, "Home On The Range" where it says "Give us a home where the buffalo roam" and I'll show you a dirty housekeeper. She made a heck of a mess out of our house. As a matter of fact I'm still cleaning. I sure hope she doesn't show up here again too soon. I eat Quaker Oats, Pop-Overs, Milk Shakes, and I'll bet you won't forget what crystal and china confetti looks like, either. Oh well, if we're here to complain, we don't have anything to complain about. Hvala Bogo . . . Congratulations to the newly married Ann (Adams) and James Brown, Nadine (Pokriots) and Micheal McFadden and to the engagement of Marcia Kohl and Nick Miloslavich. SRETAN BOZIC i NOVO GODINA . . .

Toodle . . . ooo.

FRITE'

3 cups flour
1½ tea baking powder
1 tea baking soda
½ tea cinnamon
3/4 cup sugar
½ tea salt
1 cup chopped raisens (in warm water)
½ cup chopped walnuts (add to warm water)
1 apple (grated)
½ tea ea lemon and orange rind
1½ tea vanilla
2 jiggers whiskey

Mix flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, sugar and salt together. Form well. Add remaining ingredients. Add enough warm water to make fairly firm batter. Drop by teaspoon into deep, medium to hot oil. Fry til brown on both sides. Drain on paper towels. Coat with sugar.

submitted by June Chichizola



IN MEMORIAM

GAIL ARLENE PETERSON

Gail Arlene Peterson, daughter of Kay (Kunich) and Keith Peterson of Los Altos, died November 30 following a five-month illness resulting from brain cancer. She was 37 years old.

Gail was the sister of Bruce Peterson of North Hollywood. Her aunts, uncles and cousins live in San Pedro.

Gail attended school in the Cupertino School District including Montclaire Elementary School in Los Altos. She also attended Castilleja School in Palo Alto and graduated from Homestead High School in Cupertino in 1970. She attended Chico State University and graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 1974. In May 1989 she completed the requirements for the registered nursing curriculum and received her Bachelor of Science degree and nursing pin from Chico State University School of Nursing. She was inducted into membership of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing.

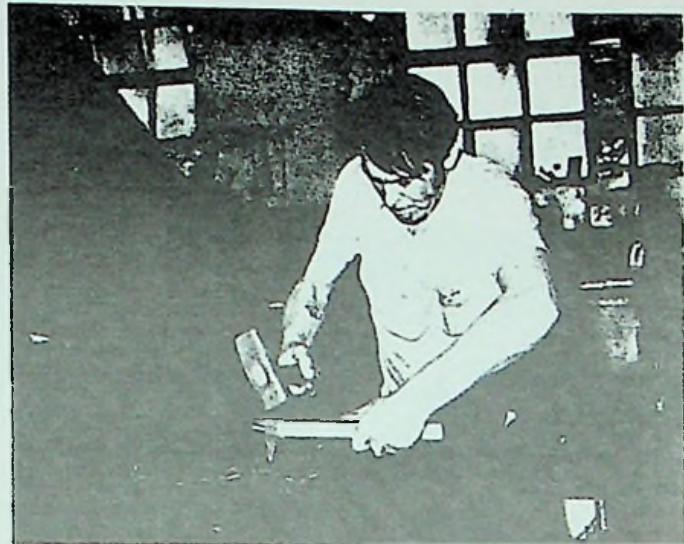
Gail was a member of the Sierra Club and participated in local Chapter activities. She served on several hiking trail service projects for the club in the Trinity Wilderness Area of northern California. She enjoyed fishing, skiing and hiking trips in the northern California mountains. For several years she was a team member in the Chico summer softball league. She had lived in Chico for 18 years.

Gail served as a volunteer for Catalyst, a crisis center in Chico for battered women. She tutored college students in basic writing skills and taught writing and library skills to high school freshmen.

A memorial service was held December 9 on the Chico State University campus. A scholarship in Gail's memory has been established at Chico State University. Contributions to the University Fund, Gail Peterson Nursing School Scholarship, Office of University Relations, CSUC, Chico, CA 95929, are preferred.

The Dragons of Kropa

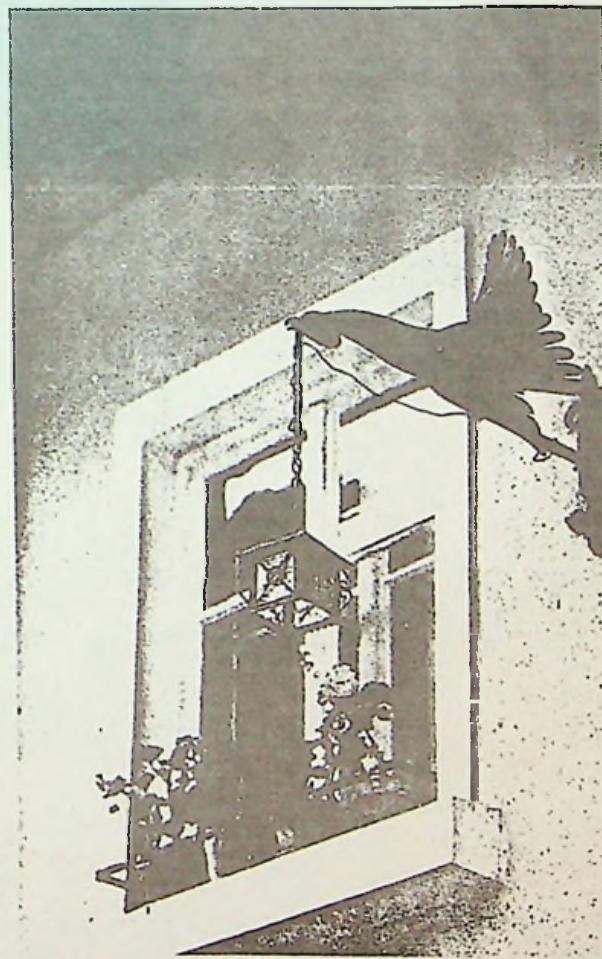
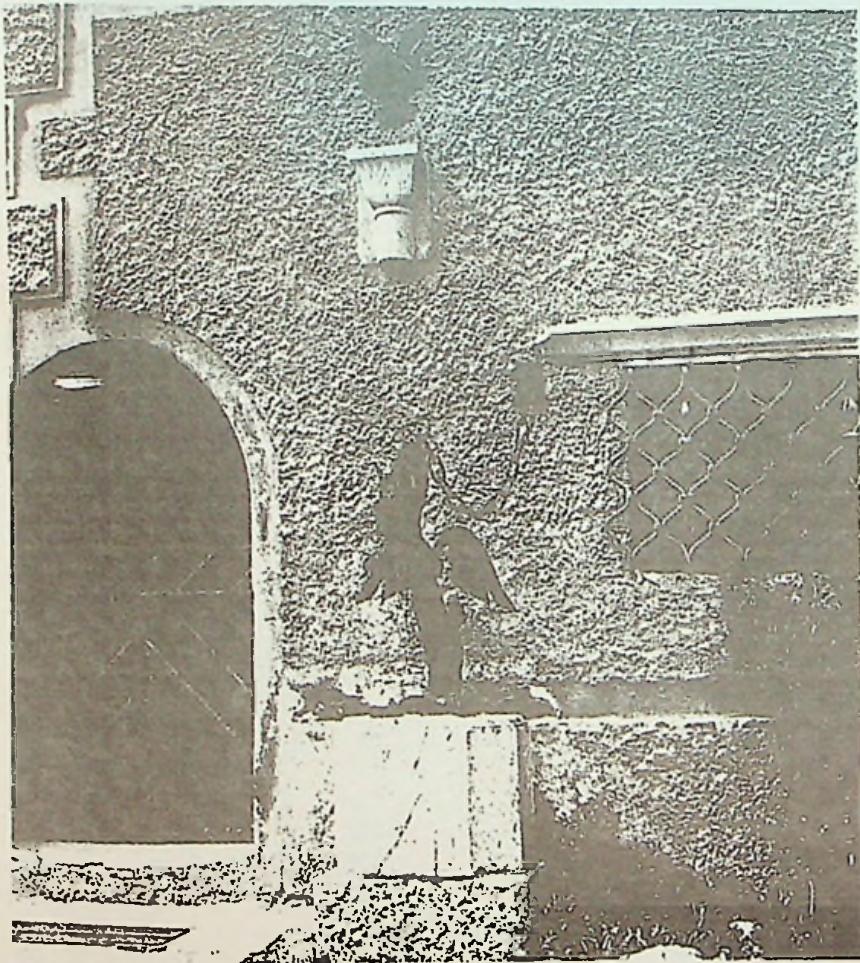
BY BOŽA ALEKSIĆ



Kropa still maintains its long metal working tradition, turning out decorative objects and souvenirs

The smelting of iron ore from the surroundings began in Kropa in the 16th century.

All the buildings in this Slovenian village are elaborately decorated with wrought iron.



The village of Kropa lies in the narrow valley of the little river Kroparica, at the foot of Mt. Jelovica, some 15 kilometres from the popular Slovenian holiday resort of Lake Bled. For centuries its inhabitants have been renowned as masters of the craft of working iron, and above all for their wrought-iron products.

FAIRY-TALE VILLAGE

When you enter Kropa you suddenly feel yourself in another world and age, in a fairy-tale place from your childhood imaginings. Everything is decorated. Strange figures and shapes peep out from all

sides. Above the doorways and along the roofs, wrought-iron dragons spread their wings, in the company of crabs, roosters, and fish. Wrought-iron, with a functional purpose, covers the windows and doors, edges the balconies, takes the shape of lanterns and flower-pots. Each of these objects is a work of art in itself. Inside, many of the houses are real museums, for wrought iron is used for ornamental picture frames, lamps, beds, on chests, stairways and cupboards, as clothes hooks, locks and hinges... It is as though the master smiths of Kropa wanted to show that cold iron could make a cosy home. This taste for wrought-iron ornamentation goes back many generations in Kropa.

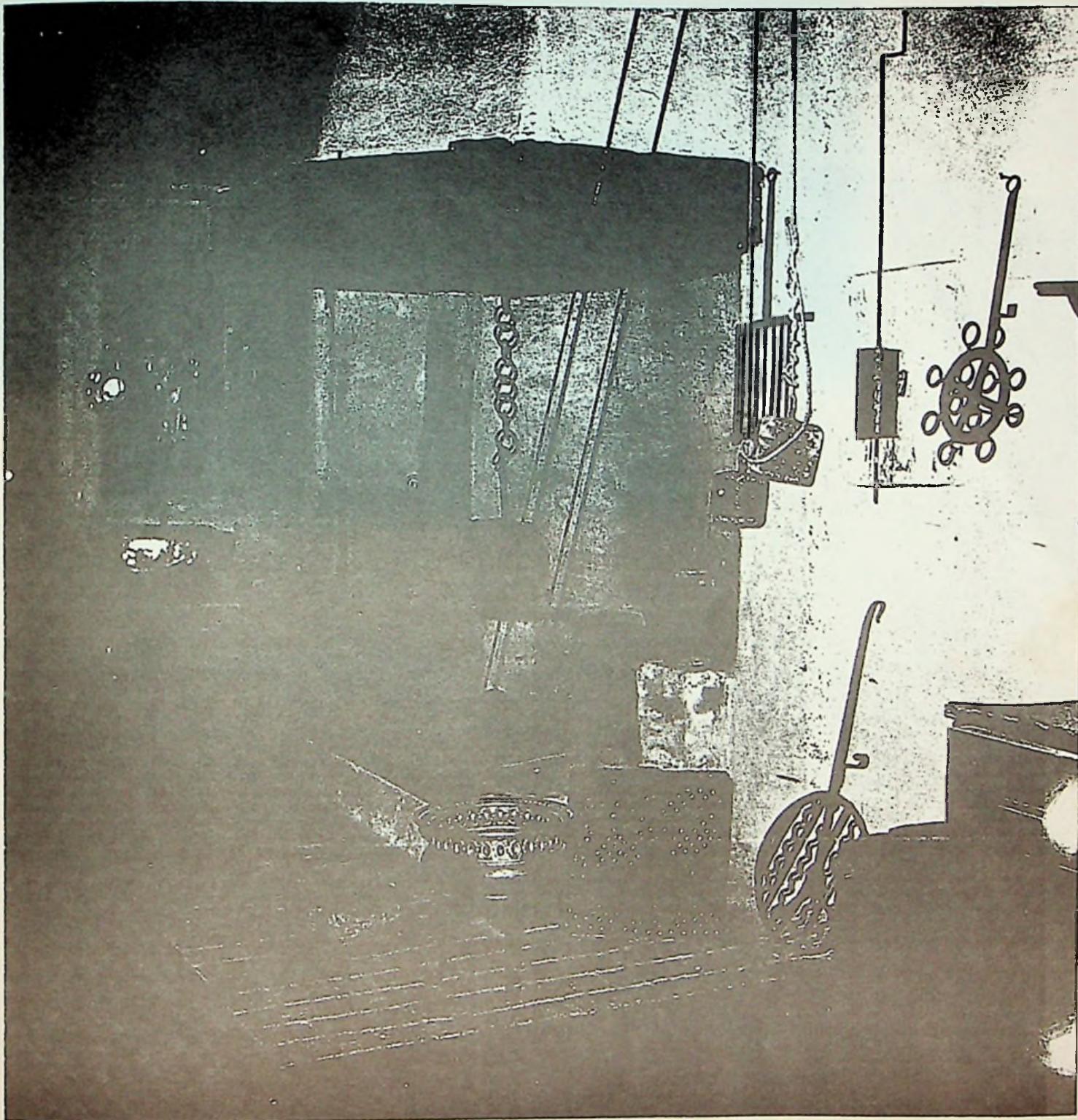


IT ALL BEGAN WITH NAILS

The history of iron-working in Kropa dates back to the Middle Ages, when iron ore from nearby deposits was smelted here. The waterfall of the little Kroparica was utilized for the operation of furnaces and the production of nails in local smithies. From the 14th century, Kropa had two foundries and the making of nails became the main occupation of the inhabitants. At the peak of its prosperity, there were as many as seven foundries and 18 forges with 300 smiths. Prosperity gained in iron and nail production seems to have encouraged the people of Kropa to go in for the artistic working of iron as well from the 16th

Kropa reached the height of its prosperity in the 18th century: in 1782 it had 1,400 inhabitants, compared with less than 1,000 today.

century on. From generation to generation this artistic craft gradually reached such a degree of perfection that the master smiths of Kropa were famed all over Central Europe. But as the iron ore deposits in the vicinity became exhausted, and the village could not compete with the large-scale iron industry that had grown up elsewhere, Kropa's prosperity rapidly declined during the 19th century. A turning point came in 1895 when a cooperative enterprise, appropriately named *Plamen* ("Flame") replaced the hand-production of nails and screws



The Blacksmith Museum in Kropa shows how the old smelters worked and houses a collection of wrought-iron objects by the master smith Jože Bertoncelj.

with machine production, and revived the manufacture of decorative wrought-iron and copper goods.

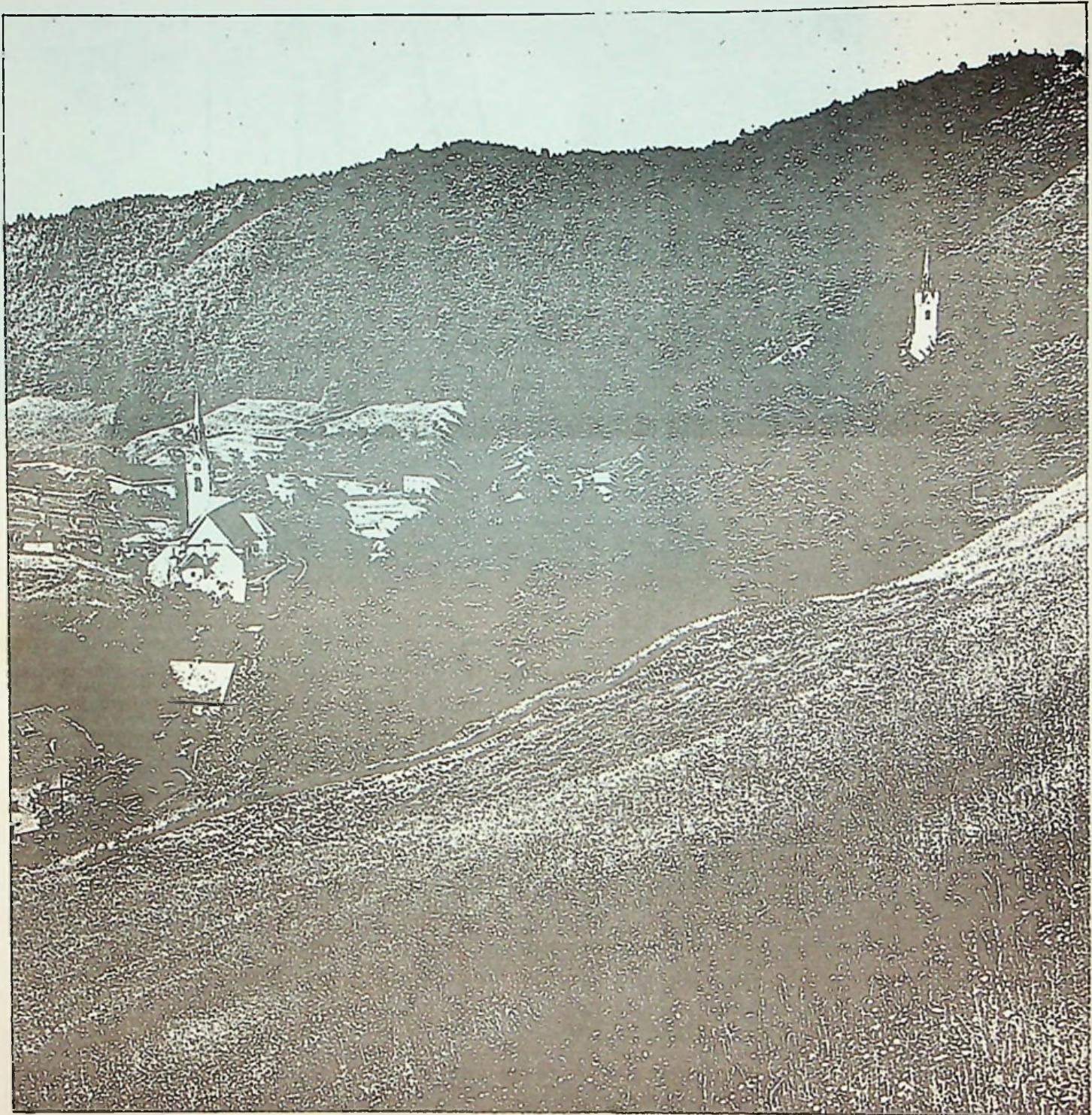
Since that time, production has been steadily modernized. In 1955, a group of master smiths left *Plamen* to form a new enterprise, UKO, specializing in the making of ornamental objects. Its forty masters turn out candlesticks, lamps, ashtrays, railings, flower-containers and many other charming wrought-iron articles.

BLACKSMITH MUSEUM

The masters of Kropa are much in demand, and are often offered better earnings to move elsewhere. Some of them do, for a while, but they all come back again.

"Everything we know we have learnt in Kropa. From one another, sons from fathers, fathers from grandfathers . . . Life isn't the same outside Kropa," one of the smiths explained.

Not surprising, then, a visit to Kropa is a most enjoyable experience. In addition to the picturesque appearance of the village, there is the

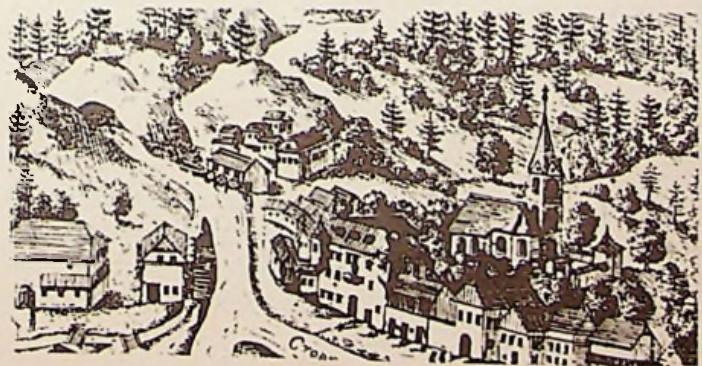


blacksmith museum, recalling the past of this craft. Kropa also preserves remains of old iron foundries, the ruins of a so-called Slovenian furnace from the 14th century, a forge with an open-hearth, the former iron mine and other relics of the iron industry in this area in past centuries. For this reason, in 1955 the whole of Kropa was placed under the protection of the law as a cultural and historical monument.

In one of its old forges the visitor can still see a smith hammering away, with sparks flying, as he shapes nails in the old manner. He works swiftly and skilfully, and then, with a smile, offers the nails to tourists — as souvenirs.

Metalworking is still the mainstay of Kropa, though tourism is steadily gaining ground.

PHOTOS BY D. MANOLEV



Kad čuješ tambure

Moderato

Kad čuješ tambure

Kad čuješ tambure, tamburice glas,
zbogom, majko i sestrice, ja ostavljam vas. (2x)
Haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena, ha-ha,
haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena. (2x)

Kad čujem tambure, skočim na bure,
pa izvadim litru, dvije, pijem do zore. (2x)
Haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena, ha-ha,
haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena. (2x)

Ja lego do zida, žena do kraja,
dode komšija, pa me otjera. (2x)
Haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena, ha-ha,
haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena. (2x)

Nije prošla godina, žena rodila,
žena rodila, isti komšija. (2x)
Haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena, ha-ha,
haj, ca, vinca-ca, vinca rumena. (2x)

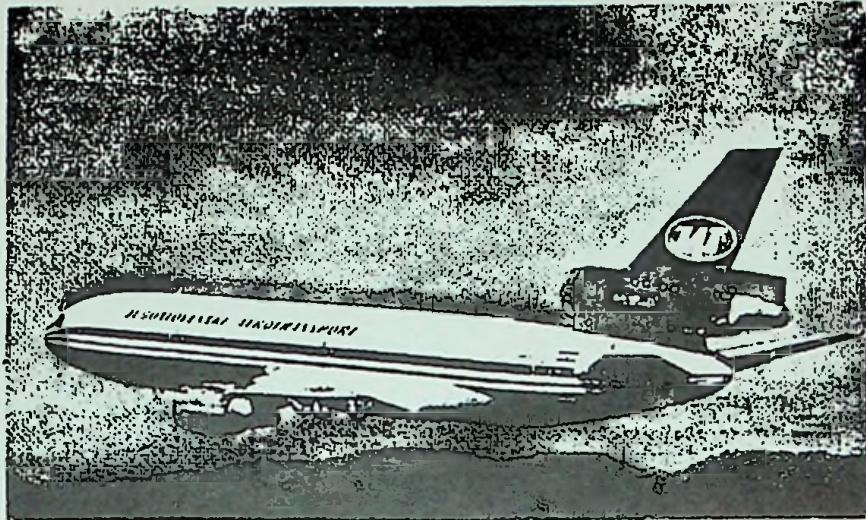
When You Hear the Tambura

When you hear the tambura, tamburitza's call,
Farewell, mother, little sisters, I will leave you all. (2x)
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine, ha-ha,
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine. (2x)

When I hear the tamburas, I leap to the keg,
Pour myself a liter, two, drink until daybreak. (2x)
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine, ha-ha,
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine. (2x)

I lay down right by the wall, wife right by the edge,
Along comes the neighbor, threw me out of bed. (2x)
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine, ha-ha,
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine. (2x)

Hardly had a year gone by, my wife had a child,
My wife had a child, she did, with the neighbor's
eyes. (2x)
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy, rosy wine, ha-ha,
Hi tsa, wine-tsa, rosy wine. (2x)



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JOIN US TODAY

YACO was established in 1979 as a non-profit club without political or religious ties for the sole purpose of bringing together Yugoslavs and other interested persons to make known and to preserve our Slavic heritage. We are proud that among our membership we have families and individuals whose roots represent each region of present-day Yugoslavia, as well as non-slavic members who support the club's goals.

A year-around series of programs and events has proven an enjoyable way for YACO to provide its focus on Slavic heritage. Such activities include picnics, lectures and slide presentations on Yugoslavia and its historic culture, plus potluck and sit-down dinners. We also publish a monthly newsletter, THE KALIFORNSKI, full of interesting articles, recipes, and news of our area's Yugoslav community.

Our meetings (the first Sunday of each month) may include a potluck, special dinner, films, dancing, and raffles, plus we hold an annual July barbecue.

Won't you accept our invitation to join us? We're sure you'll soon find YACO to be one of your favorite clubs.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership \$12
Family membership \$18

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Husband: _____

Wife: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Interests: _____

Yugoslav Background: _____

Children under 18 included in Family Membership:

ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn
c/o Rapid Offset Printing
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(408) 724-2900

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry or stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.

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CALENDAR

NOTICE!

**THERE WILL BE
NO
GENERAL MEETINGS
UNTIL
FURTHER
NOTICE!**

No Paper?

If someone you know is not receiving the KALIFORNSKI, please let us know. We publish this for you, the membership, and would like each of you to have the opportunity to keep in touch with YACO. Contact us at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 - (408) 724-2900.

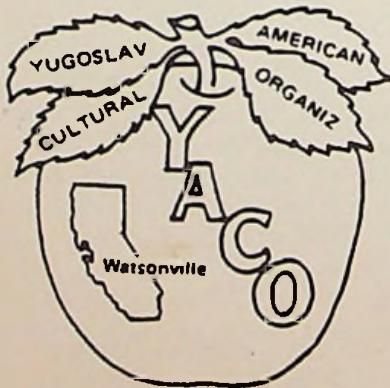
Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

JANUARY

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